DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Memorandum of Conversation

TELEPHONE

CONFIDENTIAL

DATE: July 2, 1954
5:43 p.m.

SUBJECT: Guatemalan Situation
Return of Colonel Castillo Armas

PARTICIPANTS: Ambassador John E. Peurifoy, San Salvador
Assistant Secretary Henry F. Holland

COPIES TO: The Secretary
General Smith
Mr. Murphy

1—1403

Mr. Holland asked Amb. Peurifoy if they had any word from Castillo Armas. Amb. Peurifoy said not a word yet. Mr. Holland said he had out several lines looking for him. Mr. Holland had just received two reports which could explain his absence, both to the effect that government forces are moving against Castillo Armas' forces, and that Castillo Armas' forces are quite alarmed. Mr. Holland said that if that report be true it may account for his departure and whereabouts. Ambassador Peurifoy said he discounted those reports. Mr. Holland said he had just talked with Mr. Krieg who said he would immediately go to talk to members of the Junta, and, if necessary, would dispatch an attaché to the general area to see if he encountered any signs of renewed activity. Amb. Peurifoy said he would doubt that. Mr. Holland said that if the areas are not too well defined it might be well to send out some sort of reconnaissance or tell Willauer to have this done. We will do everything possible to seek out Castillo. Mr. Holland asked if they knew when Castillo left and with whom. Ambassador Peurifoy said he left at six o'clock in his plane with two of his officers. He promised to be back there at 11:00 and then they received word that he would be back either at four or ten o'clock. Since it was beginning to clous up there he did not know if any flying was possible, but that probably he could make it if he came in within the next hour.

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By [illegible] NARS, Date 12-18-75

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